

## **EFG-Hermes Foundation to support Kasr Al Aini Hospital in fight against Hepatitis C.**

**Cairo, Egypt 25 July, 2007.** The EFG-Hermes Foundation, an independent non-profit non-governmental initiative, established by the leading regional investment bank EFG-Hermes, has contributed a grant of approximately 2.1 million EGP to the Kasr Al Aini Hospital in Cairo. The grant will be awarded over a period of two years to help control the spread of Hepatitis C and other blood viruses.

“Viral Hepatitis C is a global concern and is now of a major epidemic size in Egypt, which in most cases leads to death,” said Hanaa Helmy, CEO of the EFG-Hermes Foundation. “The EFG-Hermes Foundation is therefore supporting Nahdet El Mahrousa, a non-governmental non-profit organization, and the Kasr Al Aini Hospital, to build awareness of how to avoid exposure to the virus as well as other blood-born viruses.”

According to Helmy, the Hepatitis C and blood-born Viruses awareness campaign project includes educating nurses and patients about the prevention of the spread of such fatal viruses. Training seminars will also be conducted for all health workers in order to increase awareness, as well as a national TV campaign for greater nationwide exposure.

"We are concerned for those dieing every day of Viral Hepatitis and other blood-born viruses, as well as those that are at high risk to exposure," says Helmy. "In addition to the awareness campaign, the Foundation will also provide Al Kasr Al Aini Hospital with two Endoscope Disinfection Machines, critical care monitors, the furnishing of 350 new beds, and a two year supply of hospital supplies such as gloves and syringes, in order to improve the quality of service offered to patients as well as develop better hygiene of the hospital as a whole. Our short term goal is to protect those in immediate

danger of being infected by such fatal viruses, and our long term goal is to help eradicate them from Egypt.”

#### ***About EFG-Hermes Foundation***

The EFG-Hermes Foundation is an independent, non-profit, non-governmental organization established in 2006. EFG-Hermes' mission is to assist people and institutions, through the Foundation, in overcoming the financial, educational and health-related challenges facing the region. The aim of the Foundation is to support innovative and sustainable programs that increase the opportunities for those most in need to make a positive change in our local communities. Since the establishment of the Foundation, it has played a significant role in the development of the society, working with reputable institutions and NGOs on numerous projects such as the following projects:

**Unite for Children, Keeping Children out of the Streets Initiative:** The EFG-Hermes Foundation and UNICEF entered into a partnership in September 2006 to support the protection of street children in Egypt. The project aims at helping prevent children from living in the street and protecting children who are actually living in the street.

**Egyptian Paralympics Committee:** The project aims at supporting the Egyptian Paralympics Committee, the only entity responsible for managing all national and international activities related to handicapped athletes and those with special needs.

**Youth Sustainability and Viability Fund:** The Youth Sustainability and Viability Fund provides the necessary financial and technical support to existing and emerging youth NGOs, with the ultimate aim of empowering Egyptian youth to well-represent themselves and address their problems and those of their communities

**The Paper and Graphics Center:** The project involves establishing a paper re-cycling unit, training community members including members with special needs on the art of paper-making, establish a Design and Graphics Unit, along with developing a web site that can be accessed by creative artists everywhere, to share their ideas and activities.

**The Habitat Project:** The Nazlet Hussein Housing Project aims at improving the quality of life for individuals living in one of the communities of Minia Governorate. This will be accomplished through providing 1000 healthy safe houses, either by building new ones or by reconstructing existing ones, using locally-available building materials. Training will also be provided for the home owners as to how to build their own homes.

**The Water and Latrine Facilities Project:** The project aims at improving the health of the families living in Minia Governorate, by installing water taps and latrines in 3,000 houses. The project also aims to provide gender equality between the men and women living in these houses.

For more information on EFG-Hermes Foundation please visit, [www.efghermesfoundation.org](http://www.efghermesfoundation.org)

### **About EFG-Hermes**

Established in 1984, EFG-Hermes is the leading full-service investment bank in the Arab world. The firm specializes in Investment Banking, Asset Management, Private Equity, Brokerage and Research. With listings on both the London and Cairo stock exchanges, EFG-Hermes boasts a market capitalization in excess of US\$3.2 billion.

Through its offices in Egypt, the UAE, KSA and with more than 600 people from 18 Nationalities, EFG-Hermes serves a diverse client base from the Middle East and North Africa to Europe and the United States. Clients include governments, corporations, financial institutions, high net worth individuals and retail customers.

As part of its commitment to the communities in which it operates the Firm launched the EFG-Hermes Foundation in 2006. This social responsibility programme aims to assist individuals and institutions in overcoming financial, educational and health related challenges.

For more information on EFG-Hermes please visit [www.efg-hermes.com](http://www.efg-hermes.com), or contact:

#### **Tania Atallah**

Hill and Knowlton

[tania.atallah@hillandknowlton.com](mailto:tania.atallah@hillandknowlton.com)

Tel: +971 4 3344930

Mobile: +971 (0)50 467 5661

#### **Amr Gamal**

Hill and Knowlton Egypt

[amr.gamal@hillandknowlton.com](mailto:amr.gamal@hillandknowlton.com)

Tel: +202 27365571

Mobile: +2 0123982055